

# Intangible Cultural Heritage Update

## News and Notes on Newfoundland and Labrador's Intangible Cultural Heritage Program

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Heritage Foundation of NL



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### What, and where, is our heritage? Help map Champney's West heritage.

This June, residents of Champney's West will start to map out what their heritage means to them, with a little help from folklorist Dale Jarvis.

In Newfoundland and Labrador, our living heritage is rich and diverse. It includes ballad singing, snowshoe-making, accordion playing, knitting,

Christmas mummering, berry picking, boat building, and much more. We tell stories, make clothes, shear sheep, and spin yarn. We have a complex knowledge of place, the seasons, and the movements and patterns of animals from moose to cod fish. If we lose these important parts of our living heritage (what we call Intangible Cultural Heritage or ICH), we will also lose important resources that can keep our communities going culturally, economically and socially. But where do we start?

Communities decide which traditions are important to document. Sometimes these traditions are threatened; sometimes particular elders or tradition-bearers will be highlighted. Other communities may record important traditions of everyday life. One first step is "asset mapping" - the process of collecting, recording, and analyzing local information in order to describe the cultural resources, networks, links and patterns of the community. Cultural asset mapping provides an inventory of key cultural resources that can be utilized for future development in the community.

Dale Jarvis, the ICH Development Officer with the Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador, will be leading a community conversation about historic places, trails, old stories, place names, traditions, and local knowledge. Come for a cup of tea, and tell us what matters to you in Champney's West. It will be a free and fun community workshop, sponsored by the Champney's West Heritage Group Inc.

**Thursday, June 11th, 2015, 7pm – 9 pm**

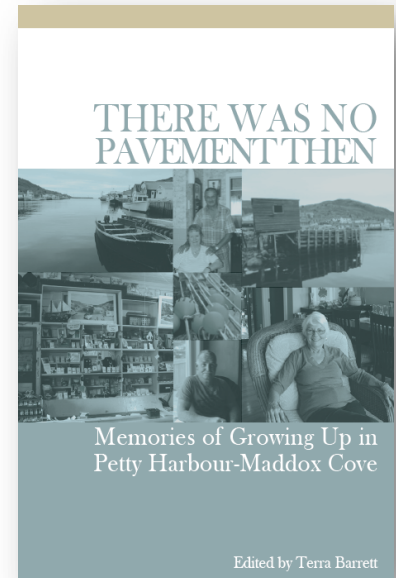
**Recreation Hall, Jack's Hill, Champney's West**

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## There Was No Pavement Then: Memories of Growing Up in Petty Harbour-Maddox Cove Booklet

*By Terra Barrett*

The idea for this booklet developed out of a research project I completed during the summer of 2014, while I was working as an intern with the Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador. For the internship, I conducted fieldwork—including oral history interviews and photography—with community members of Petty Harbour-Maddox Cove, NL. As the oral history project came to a close the question of what to do with the material surfaced. While the interviews and pictures are available to the public online on Memorial University's DAI along with two articles written about the project for the ICH newsletter, and the Petty Harbour-Maddox Cove community museum has copies of all pictures and interviews a booklet seemed like a wonderful tangible reminder of the community's stories. The booklet will include transcribed excerpts from the recorded interviews, on themes and topics that include growing up, children's games, hard work, Christmas season, community events, culture and tradition, folk beliefs, our places and moving forward. Photos are included in each of the sections with portraits of the community members who were interviewed. I have edited the booklet and it will be laid out and designed by local graphic designer and artist Graham Blair. Funding for the booklet comes from the Helen Creighton Folklore Society Grants in Aid program.



Although I did not grow up in Petty Harbour-Maddox Cove I have fond memories of visiting my aunt, uncle, and cousins out on the point. I remember catching jellyfish at the mouth of the river, climbing the rocky hills, and watching fishermen split freshly caught fish. Many of the stories in this collection recall similar events. From children's games such as rounders, and piddly to activities such as skating, berry picking, troutling, and cutting cod's tongues, the stories highlight the close-knit families and friends in the community. Petty Harbour-Maddox Cove resident Ron Doyle mentioned there wasn't a whole lot to do in the community as children so they had to make their own fun which sometimes included watching their neighbour's television:

"I remember in the community when there were no TVs or very little TV and TVs started to come on, right? Like I said it was only people that had a few dollars that could afford it. I remember one guy who owned the bus service here in the community, Mr. Lee, he had a TV. We used to go down and stand on a rock that was outside of his window and look in his window all night at the TV. I'm still amazed, I say, 'Did we really do that?' and he really let us do it. Imagine someone standing outside your window all night looking in through your window at the TV, right. That was entertainment growing up here – I tell you there wasn't a lot. You made your own."

Several other people in the community recall television coming to Petty Harbour-Maddox Cove and the booklet includes a funny story about William Chafe's late night stroll through the community after seeing "The Catman of Paris" on the Lee family's new television. Another novelty for the children of the community during the days when people would walk to St. John's was the sight of cars. Jimmy Doyle remembers:

"There wasn't a big lot around. Hardly any cars when I was young we used to see a car and we would run to look at it. Especially a dump truck."

Aside from memories about growing up in the community there are recollections of a number of children's games and activities, the hard working families, folk beliefs, and important community places such as "The Stand". Community events played and continue to play a major role in the community's social life and holidays such as Christmas and St. Patrick's Day are very important to the community. The social culture of the community is seen in the sections on Christmas, community events, and culture and tradition. For these and more stories keep your eye out for the launch of the booklet "There Was No Pavement Then: Memories of Growing Up in Petty Harbour-Maddox Cove."

## The Memory Store

*By Terra Barrett*

One of the Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador's summer projects is the Memory Store project. The term Memory Store is a play on words. In modern usage store usually means to retain or enter information electronically for future retrieval. Historically, in Newfoundland English, a store was a building and part of a fisherman's waterfront premises or 'room' where supplies, gear, and dried and salted cod would be kept. Stores were often places where stories, gossip, and oral histories were passed down while people carried out their daily work. So the Memory Store is a virtual spot where we can tell stories about local places.

The Memory Store project is part of the Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador's goal to foster a greater appreciation of historic places, by researching the stories and histories of historic places, and making those stories more accessible to the general public. I was hired this summer as a historic sites researcher and my position involves background research and photography of the historic places, seeking out stories and doing short video interview clips with people about heritage buildings. The Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador is working to document the architectural history and the associated narratives of Newfoundland's historic places, in and around the St. John's region. This research project will form part of a permanent collection with Memorial University of Newfoundland's Digital Archives Initiative.

I am looking for stories about historic buildings' use, history, and their renovations.

I have already come across a number of interesting stories related to historic buildings. I have been told the story of how a vault at the Anna Templeton Centre may have held the Crown Jewels during the Second World War, how lengths of nautical rope passed as a second fire escape in the Crow's Nest Officer's Club, and how the Craft Council of Newfoundland and Labrador had to renovate Devon House – starting from the top of the roofline and ripping right down to the bottom. Stories such as these serve as intangible reminders that historic buildings are more than their bricks or pieces of wood, the stories surrounding these buildings are what make them important to the community at large and are something which we should strive to remember and make accessible to everyone.



The Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador will be featuring a selection of short stories about historic places in the province, in the form of short oral history interviews conducted with the people who care about those places. If you have a personal memory about a historic place in Newfoundland and Labrador, and want to add your voice to the Memory Store project, let us know at [ich@heritagefoundation.ca](mailto:ich@heritagefoundation.ca), [terra@heritagefoundation.ca](mailto:terra@heritagefoundation.ca) or 739-1892 ex. 5.

Remember to follow ICH NL on our Facebook page, Twitter feed, YouTube Channel and on the blog for bi-weekly updates from the Memory Store.

*Photos by Terra Barrett.*



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# **SAVING OUR STORIES**

**AN INTRODUCTION TO COMMUNITY ORAL HISTORY  
WITH FOLKLORIST DALE JARVIS**



**A FREE WORKSHOP** ORGANIZED BY  
SIR WILLIAM F COAKER HERITAGE FOUNDATION, CHAMPNEY'S WEST HERITAGE GROUP,  
AND THE HERITAGE FOUNDATION OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR.

**FACTORY/ADVOCATE BUILDING | PORT UNION, NL**

**SATURDAY, JUNE 13TH, 2015  
1:00PM - 4:00PM**

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**IT IS FREE TO ATTEND, BUT YOU NEED TO REGISTER IN ADVANCE.  
FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:**

**Terra Barrett at 1-888-739-1892 x 5 or email [terra@heritagefoundation.ca](mailto:terra@heritagefoundation.ca)**